Virtual Collaboration

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This mini-track is new this year. The focus is on collaboration across the Internet, a topic rapidly becoming important in today's world as the popularity of the Internet grows. One of my objectives in coordinating this mini-track was to encourage a wide range of papers that touched on a variety of important issues.

This year, we have just two papers. The first paper, by Brad Wheeler and myself, attempts to chart this emerging world of virtual collaboration by developing a framework analyzing groupware systems and organizational needs; our goal is to help developers and managers identify what characteristics are important in fitting technology to organizational tasks.

The second paper, by Bentley and Appelt, describes the BSCW system. BSCW is used to share documents and collaborate across the World Wide Web.

We hope you enjoy the papers and the discussion they generate.